

GEORGIA—RESOLUTIONS LEGISLATURE, AND REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON
RESOLUTIONS OF TENNESSEE.

FEBRUARY 4, 1833.

Read, and laid upon the table.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, GEORGIA,
Milledgeville, December 28, 1832.

SIR: In conformity with a joint resolution of the General Assembly of this State, I transmit to you the accompanying preamble and resolutions, approved on the 24th instant.

I have the honor to be,

With great respect,

Your obedient servant,

WILSON LUMPKIN.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The Joint Committee on the state of the Republic, to whom was referred the resolutions of the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee on the subject of the power which has been assumed and exercised by the General Government, of appropriating money out of the Treasury of the United States to be expended upon objects of internal improvement, submit the following report:

The subject referred to your committee is one upon which the Legislature has heretofore been called on for the expression of an opinion, and one upon which the public mind has been much excited, and is well informed: a reiteration of facts and arguments is therefore not deemed necessary. They will remark, however, that it has lost none of its importance: and although the growing discontent throughout the southern States, and the firmness of President Jackson, have given a check to the designs of the friends of the American system, and, for the present, closed the doors of the Treasury to their extravagant plans for squandering the public revenue, it must not be forgotten by the supporters of State rights that the principle has not yet been abandoned, and awaits only favorable opportunity to be again called into action by its advocates, in aid of their plans of usurpation and consolidation.

It was early discovered by the friends of the protective system, and we might add of usurpation, that some plan must be adopted to dispose of the exorbitant tax which they designed to lay upon the commerce of the country; and perhaps the ingenuity of man could not have devised one better suited to the views of the enemies of State rights, and the friends of manufacturing monopolists, or more dangerous to the reserved rights of the States,

the safety of our political institutions, and the liberties of the people. The plan of constructing extensive works of internal improvements by the General Government promised to answer all their ends. By this means, the Treasury was to be emptied, the commerce of the country taxed without limit, the territory and jurisdiction of the States invaded and prostrated. The continued exercise of this power would have accomplished all their wishes: while it afforded a pretext for protecting domestic manufactories by high duties to supply the wants of Government, it appropriated its revenue to construct roads and canals in those sections of the Union which were, or might thereby become, friendly to the system. In this state of our political affairs, when an interested majority in Congress seemed to have lost sight of the constitution, or, disregarding its provisions, were engaged in a course of legislation to promote the interest of particular occupations, and for the benefit of particular sections at the public expense, the veto message of President Jackson on the Lexington and Maysville Turnpike road bill was hailed as an unequivocal evidence of a determination on his part to arrest the exercise of this unconstitutional power, and to put a stop to these extravagant appropriations.

With these remarks, your committee submit the following resolutions:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Georgia in General Assembly met, That they do concur with the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee in deprecating the exercise of the powers which have been assumed by Congress, of appropriating money out of the Treasury of the United States, and in subscribing for stock under State corporations.

Resolved, further, That this General Assembly does expressly declare, that the Government of the United States does not possess the powers, under the constitution, to carry on a system of internal improvement within the several States, or to appropriate money to be expended upon such improvements.

Resolved, That his excellency the Governor be requested to forward copies of these resolutions to the Governors of the respective States, and to our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

Agreed to, 21st December, 1832.

ASBURY HULL, *Speaker.*

Attest, ROBERT W. CARNES, *Clerk.*

IN SENATE.

Concurred in, 22d December, 1832.

THOMAS STOCKS, *President.*

Attest, IVERSON L. HARRIS, *Secretary.*

Approved, December, 24th 1832.

WILSON LUMPKIN, *Governor.*